

Message Text

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ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 IO-14 DPW-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01

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R 011042Z JUL 74

FM AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9704

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY SAIGON

CINCPAC

C O N F I D E N T I A L VIENTIANE 5112

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, LA, TH, VS

SUBJECT: JCCIA DEVELOPMENTS

REF: FBIS BANGKOK 261100Z JUN 74

1. JCCIA ACTIVITIES IMPLEMENTING MILITARY PROVISIONS OF LAOS AGREEMENT INCREASED DURING PAST WEEK, AS JOINT MOBILE TEAMS DEPLOYED TO MILITARY REGIONS IV AND I FOR EMPLACEMENT OF "BOUNDARY STAKES" BETWEEN TWO SIDES' ZONES AS PROVIDED IN ARTICLE 12 OF LAOS PROTOCOL.

2. ON JUNE 27, JCCIA JOINT MOBILE TEAM FORMALLY EMPLANTED "BOUNDARY STAKE" IN BAN LAO VILLAGE (XC 107358) IN BAN SAPHAT REGION OF MR IV. ALTHOUGH VILLAGE OF BAN LAO WILL BE CONSIDERED "NEUTRALIZED" IT WILL BE UNDER ADMINISTRATION OF VIENTIANE SIDE VILLAGE CHIEF, AND GARRISONED WITH A FEW RLGAFF SOLDIERS. NEARBY LPF AND VIENTIANE SIDE MILITARY POSITIONS WILL REMAIN.

3. JOINT MOBILE TEAM WAS SCHEDULED TO VISIT ROUTE 23
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ON BOLOVENS PLATEAU AFTER BAN SAPHAT STAKE PLANTED. LOCATION

OF STAKE ON ROUTE 23 IS IN DISPUTE. MR IV CG SOUTCHAI WANTS STAKE AT KILOMETER 47 MARKER ON ROUTE 23 JUST OUTSIDE PAKSONG TOWN, BUT LPF DEMANDS STAKE LOCATED AT VILLAGE OF BAN ITOU (KILOMETER 35) SOME 12 KILOMETERS FARTHER WEST ALONG ROAD. PROTOCOL REQUIRES STAKE AT BAN ITOU, ALTHOUGH RLGAH HOLDS POSITION AT KILOMETER 46, WHERE FIGHTING STOPPED AFTER CEASEFIRE. THIS DISPUTE WILL TAKE SOME TIME TO SETTLE.

4. JOINT MOBILE TEAM IN MR IV IS EXPECTED TO VISIT KONG MI ENCLAVE (YB0505) SOUTHEAST OF ATTOPEU THIS WEEK.

5. FOLLOWING REGULAR WEEKLY JCCIA MEETING JUNE 27, BOTH SIDES SPOKESMAN TOLD PRESS THAT ACTIVITIES OF JOINT MOBILE TEAM IN LUANG PRABANG WERE STALLED BY DISPUTE OVER EXACT LOCATION OF BOUNDARY STAKE REQUIRED BY LAOS PROTOCOL IN HOUEI LONG VAY AREA (TG 3650). DISPUTE IS BEING REFERRED TO JCCIA FOR RESOLUTION.

6. JCCIA SPOKESMAN ALSO ANNOUNCED THAT BOTH SIDES HAD AGREED DURING JUNE 27 MEETING ON APPOINTMENT OF BOUNKHONG PRADICHITH, PRESENTLY PREFECT (MAYOR) OF LUANG PRABANG, AS NEW PREFECT OF VIENTIANE, REPLACING THONGSAVATH VONGSAVANTHONG. (COMMENT: BOUNKHONG IS FORMER DIRECTOR-GENERAL OF NATIONAL POLICE, WITH BAD REPUTATION FOR INCOMPETENCE AND CORRUPTION. REPORTEDLY A FAVORITE OF THE KING, HE WAS HELPFUL TO LPF IN INFLUX OF THEIR PERSONNEL INTO LUANG PRABANG OVER PAST SIX MONTHS. LPF AGREEMENT TO HIS APPOINTMENT MAY STEM FROM THESE FACTORS).

7. LPF SPOKESMAN PHAO BOUNNAPHOL ALSO TOLD PRESS THAT HIS SIDE HAD PROTESTED "AERIAL RECONNAISSANCE FLIGHTS OVER LIBERATED ZONE" DURING MEETING.

8. ALSO ON JUNE 27, RADIO PATHET LAO BROADCAST "JOINT COMMUNIQUE" ON CEASEFIRE IMPLEMENTATION SIGNED BY TWO SIDES AT JUNE 20 JCCIA MEETING (REF). ARTICILE TWO OF COMMUNIQUE BANS AERIAL RECONNAISSANCE AND MILITARY SUPPLY FLIGHTS OVER ZONES OF EITHER SIDE, AND SUBJECTS FOOD SUPPLY FLIGHTS TO PRIOR APPROVAL OF JCCIA. ARTICILE FIVE
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PROVIDES THAT NEITHER SIDE CAN THREATEN SUPPLY FLIGHTS OF OTHER SIDE "IN AIR CORRIDORS AGREED UPON BY THE TWO SIDES."

9. COMMENT: IN CONTEXT OF THESE PROVISIONS, FORTHCOMING VISIT OF JOINT MOBILE TEAM TO KONG MI ENCLAVE AND LPF PROTEST AGAINST AERIAL RECONNAISSANCE IN JCCIA MEETING--THE FIRST TO SURFACE IN THIS FORUM--MAY MEAN THAT LPF IS

NOW PREPARING GROUNDWORK FOR CONCRETE PROPOSAL
REQUIRING JCCIA APPROVAL FOR ALL RESUPPLY FLIGHTS TO
VIENTIANE SIDE ENCLAVES. UNAPPROVED FLIGHTS OVER LPF ZONE
WOULD THUS BE SUBJECT TO GROUNDFIRE. WE ANTICIPATED
POSSIBILITY THAT LPF MIGHT DEMAND JCCIA APPROVAL OF
SUPPLY FLIGHTS. DURING 60-DAY PERIOD FOLLOWING FORMA-
TION OF PGNU, TWO-MONTH STOCKPILES OF PROVISIONS WERE
ESTABLISHED IN MAJOR VIENTIANE SIDE ENCLAVE AREAS BEHIND
LPF LINES. THESE STOCKPILES SHOULD LAST UNTIL JULY 30.
CHAPMAN

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